

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide necessary passenger facilities along with shaded platforms at Kayankulam station in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Passenger Amenities commensurate with traffic handled at Kayankulam station are being provided as part of Kayankulam - Quilon doubling work, now in progress.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Medical Facilities in A & N Islands**

**4100. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andaman and Nicobar Islands have any full fledged general hospital with all modern medical facilities and specialists in various branches of medicine and surgery;

(b) if so, whether for want of specialists in several fields, many patients are either referred to Madras or Calcutta hospitals; and

(c) if so, the details of fields where specialists are not available there and the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA):** (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Nilambur - Feroke Line**

**4101. SHRI E. AHAMED:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to conduct preliminary survey to construct Nilambur-Feroke railway line via Manjeri; and

(b) if so, when the survey is likely to be started?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This has already been started.

[Translation]

#### **Unemployed Blind Scholars**

**4102. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of blind students having M. Phil and Ph.D. degree are unemployed;

(b) whether the Government propose to reserve some posts exclusively for these highly educated blinds;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the other steps taken by the Government to assist such persons?

**THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH):** (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) to (d). At present reservation of 1% is available to the visually handicapped persons in respect of direct recruitment to